

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:83
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005
FISH FARMING
Purandeswari Smt. Daggubati

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an Indian Aquaculturist has been awarded the coveted World Food Prize for his work on expansion of aquaculture and fish farming;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to explore the possibilities of making the unique method of fish farming developed by the aquaculturist available to our aqua-farmers for their application and benefit; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. Dr. Modadugu V. Gupta has been awarded 2005 World Food Prize for his work on expansion of aquaculture and fish farming. Dr. Gupta worked as the Assistant Director General at World Fish Center based at Penang, Malaysia until his retirement recently. It is reported that he has developed an economically viable low input aquaculture technology.

(c)&(d): The technology referred to had also been developed in India during the decade of 70s under the All India Coordinated Research Project on Composite Fish Culture by ICAR. The above research projects operated in a number of States in the country in coordination with the State Governments. The above technology has been adopted in the country under ongoing programme of Development of Freshwater Aquaculture being implemented in the States through Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs). As a result the average pond productivity in fish farming has raised from 0.5 tonnes/ha in the early 1970s to 2.3 tonnes/ha/year at present. With the adoption of above technology, inland fish production in the country has climbed from 9.87 lakh tonnes in 1983-84 to 34.57 lakh tonnes in 2003-04.